

By order of the Commission.

Donna R. Koehnke,

Secretary.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA")

Consistent with Departmental policy, 28 CFR 50.7, and under Section 122(d) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9622(d), notice is hereby given that a proposed consent decree in *United States and State of New York v. City of Batavia, et al.*, Civ. No. 00-CV-0838E(SR), was lodged on September 29, 2000 with the United States District Court for the Western District of New York. The Consent Decree concerns hazardous waste contamination at the Batavia Landfill Superfund Site (the "Site"), located in the Town of Batavia, Genesee County, New York. The Consent Decree would resolve the liability in connection with the Site for implementation of response actions, reimbursement of response costs incurred and to be incurred by the United States, and natural resource damages, as to twenty defendants against whom the United States filed a complaint on behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior ("DOI"). The Consent Decree would also resolve the liability to the State of New York of essentially the same group of defendants for reimbursement of response costs incurred by the State of New York in connection with the Site. In addition, the Consent Decree would resolve any liability the United States on behalf of the Veterans Administration may have for response actions, reimbursement of response costs, or natural resource damages in connection with the Site.

The Consent Decree requires three of the settling defendants—the City of Batavia, the Town of Batavia, and N L Industries, Inc. ("the Settling Work Defendants")—to perform the remedial action at the Site selected by EPA in its 1995 Record of Decision at an estimated cost of approximately \$12.78 million and to reimburse the United States approximately three-fourths of the United States' future response costs in connection with the Site. The Settling Work Defendants will also create six acres of wetlands and pay \$51,000 in full reimbursement of the DOI's past

costs of assessing natural resource damages and estimated future costs of monitoring wetlands work at the Site. The United States will fund approximately one-fourth of this settlement, by relinquishing its claim for approximately \$4 million in past response costs incurred by EPA in connection with the Site, and by pre-authorizing the Settling Work Defendants to apply for up to approximately \$808,000 in reimbursement from the Hazardous Substance Superfund (established by 26 U.S.C. 9507), and for approximately one-fourth of any excess of costs incurred by the Settling Work Defendants above the projected cost total for the remedial action. The other settling defendants, and the United States on behalf of the Veterans Administration, will resolve their liability by making payments in accordance with a private settlement agreement among the defendants into an escrow account established by the Settling Work Defendants. The United States' payment to the escrow account on behalf of the Veterans Administration is \$565,226.

The Department of Justice will receive, for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication, comments relating to the proposed consent decree. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, P.O. Box 7611, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20044-7611, and should refer to *United States and State of New York v. City of Batavia, et al.*, DOJ Ref. #90-11-2-861.

The proposed consent decree may be examined at the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, 138 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14202 (contact Assistant United States Attorney Mary K. Roach); and the Region II Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 290 Broadway, New York, New York, 10007-1866 (contact Assistant Regional Counsel Beverly Kolenberg). A copy of the proposed consent decree may be obtained by mail from the Consent Decree Library, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044-7611. In requesting a copy please refer to the referenced case and enclose a check in the amount of \$25.25 (25 cents per page reproduction costs) for the Consent Decree without Appendices, or in the amount of \$68.25 for the Consent Decree

with all Appendices, payable to the Consent Decree Library.

Bruce S. Gelber,

Deputy Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

[FR Doc. 00-25902 Filed 10-6-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Proposed Agreement Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

Notice is hereby given of a proposed Prospective Purchaser Agreement and Covenant Not to Sue between the United States on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and Renaissance Land Associates, LP, and Renaissance Land Associates Acquisition Corporation (hereinafter referred to as "Purchasers").

The proposed agreement would allow Purchasers to acquire title to approximately 5 acres of land ("the Property") within the Crater Resources Superfund Site ("Site") located in King of Prussia, Upper Merion Township, Pennsylvania, without becoming liable under CERCLA (the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 9601 *et seq.*) for pre-existing contamination at the Site. Purchasers plan to develop the Property for commercial office uses. In consideration of the Agreement, Purchasers will pay the United States \$100,000 to be used as partial reimbursement for past response costs incurred at the Site. In addition, Purchasers will conduct any necessary sampling and cleanup of contamination located on the Property.

The Department of Justice will receive, for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication, comments relating to the proposed agreement. Comments should be addressed to the Assistant Attorney General for the Environment and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20530, and should refer to *In the matter of Crater Resources Superfund Site—Agreement and Covenant Not To Sue*, Docket Number CERC-PPA-2000-0010, DOJ Ref. #90-11-2-1283.

The proposed Agreement may be examined and copied at the Region III Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, c/o Yvette Hamilton-Taylor, Senior Assistant Regional Counsel, 1650 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103. A copy of the proposed Agreement may be obtained by mail from the Consent